STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

AUG 31 2006

## STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

DEPT OF INSURANCE BY

In the Matter of:

Docket No. 06A-179-INS

21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE SOUTHWEST, NAIC # 10245,

**CONSENT ORDER** 

Respondent.

Examiners for the Department of Insurance (the "Department") conducted a target market examination of 21<sup>ST</sup> Century Insurance Company of the Southwest ("21<sup>st</sup> Century"). In the Report of Target Market Examination of 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the Examiners allege that 21<sup>st</sup> Century violated A.R.S. §20-1632.01.

21<sup>st</sup> Century wishes to resolve this matter without formal proceedings, neither admits nor denies that the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are true, and consents to the entry of the following Order.

# **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. 21<sup>st</sup> Century is authorized to transact property and casualty insurance pursuant to a Certificate of Authority issued by the Director.
- 2. The Director authorized the Examiners to conduct a target market examination of 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The examination covered the time period from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004 and concluded on October 12, 2005. Based on the examination findings, the Examiners prepared the "Report of Target Market Examination of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance Company" dated December 31, 2004.
- 3. The Examiners reviewed 62 of 1429 mid-term cancellation files and 62 of 1532 non-renewal cancellation files cancelled for non-payment of premium during the examination period and found that 21<sup>st</sup> Century failed to provide the minimum 7 day grace period, after the premium due date, on 47 mid-term cancellations and 49 non-

2

1

4

3

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

1415

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

2425

renewal cancellations. The Company performed a system change, effective December 14, 2005, which corrected the situations which lead to the violation.

4. In its previous Market Conduct Examination of the Company, dated as of December 21, 1999, the Department found that "a final notice of cancellation was sent after the seven day grace period and the notice was effective on the date mailed as required by A.R.S. § 20-1631.01."

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.**

- 1. 21<sup>st</sup> Century's practices regarding the cancellation of private passenger automobile insurance policies were found to be inconsistent with the Department's interpretation of A.R.S §20-1632.01, in that they failed to provide a minimum seven day grace period, after the premium due date, before canceling personal automobile policies for nonpayment of premium.
- 2. Grounds exist for the entry of the following Order in accordance with A.R.S. § 20-220.

### **ORDER**

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance Company of the Southwest ("21st Century") agrees to provide a minimum seven day grace period, after the premium due date, before canceling personal automobile policies for nonpayment of premium.
- 2. The Department shall be permitted, through authorized representatives, to verify that 21<sup>st</sup> Century has complied with all provisions of this Order.
- 3. The Report of Target Market Examination of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance Company of the Southwest as of December 31, 2004, including the letter with their objections to the Report of Examination, shall be filed with the Department upon the filing of this Order.

#### CONSENT TO ORDER

- 21st Century Insurance Company of the Southwest (21st Century") has reviewed the foregoing Order.
- 21st Century admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of 2. Arizona, neither admits nor denies the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and consents to the entry of the Order.
- 21st Century is aware of the right to a hearing, at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. 21st Century Insurance Company irrevocably waives the right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals related to this Order.
- 21st Century states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to induce it to enter into this Consent Order and that it has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 21st Century acknowledges that the acceptance of this Order by the 5. Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance is solely for the purpose of settling this matter and does not preclude any other agency or officer of this state or its subdivisions or any other person from instituting proceedings, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- Michael J. Cassanego, who holds the office of Secretary of 21st Century 6. Insurance Company of the Southwest, is authorized to enter into this Order for them and on their behalf.

21st CENTURY INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE SOUTHWEST

Cassango

8-16-06 Date

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

1	COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered
2	this <u>31st</u> day of <u>August</u> , 2006, to:
3	Gerrie Marks
4	Deputy Director Mary Butterfield
5	Assistant Director Consumer Affairs Division
6	Paul J. Hogan  Market Oversight Administrator
7	Market Oversight Administrator  Market Oversight Division  Dean Ehler
8	Assistant Director
9	Property & Casualty Division Steve Ferguson Assistant Director
10	Financial Affairs Division
11	Alan Griffieth Chief Financial Examiner
12	Alexandra Schafer Assistant Director
13	Life and Health Division
14	Terry L. Cooper Fraud Unit Chief
15	DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
16	2910 North 44th Street, Suite 210
17	Phoenix, AZ 85018
18	
19	
20	S. David Childers, Esq. 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Insurance Company of the Southwest
21	C/O Low & Childers, P.C. 2999 N. 44 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 250 Phoenix, AZ 85018
22	
23	
24	$\bigcap$
25	Currey Dustor
	The state of the s